

ABSTRACT

Aspects of the invention relate to hard copy imaging systems, print server systems, and print server connectivity methods. In one aspect, a hard copy imaging system includes a first communications network configured to operate
5 in a first communication link format, a second communications network configured to operate in a second communication link format, a plurality of hard imaging devices communicatively coupled to the first communications network, and an external device communicatively coupled to the second communications network, the external device is configured to forward a print request to at least
10 one of the plurality of hard imaging devices for processing. A print server is communicatively coupled to a plurality of hard imaging devices via the first communications network, and to the external device via the second communications network. The print server is configured to receive a print request from the external device in the second communication link format and
15 generate a translated print request in the first communication link format for processing by at least one of the plurality of hard imaging devices. The print server is further configured to generate and communicate a signal to the external device, the signal being indicative of individual hard imaging devices among the plurality of hard imaging devices that are supported by the print server even if
20 the plurality of hard imaging devices are not configured to support the second communication link format. Print server connectivity methods are also provided.